



Purcellville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

June 12, 2007

Doug Rambo, Chairman
Loudoun County Fire and Rescue Commission
803 Sycolin Road
Leesburg, Virginia 20171

Commissioner Rambo:

At the regular monthly business meeting of the Purcellville Volunteer Fire Company on June 11, 2007 action was taken in regards to the impending staffing for station 2. The membership voted unanimously to make the request to the Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee to re-allocate the eight additional career firefighters from the initial request of four firefighters for 24/7 to eight firefighters 12/7. This request is being made due to the volunteer staffing changes within the company within the past one and a half years. The Purcellville Volunteer Fire Company solicits the support of the Fire and Rescue Commission as it passes on our request to the Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee.

Thank you for your consideration.

Bob Dryden
Fire Chief
Purcellville Vol. Fire Co.

Rick Reaves
President
Purcellville Vol. Fire Co.

History:

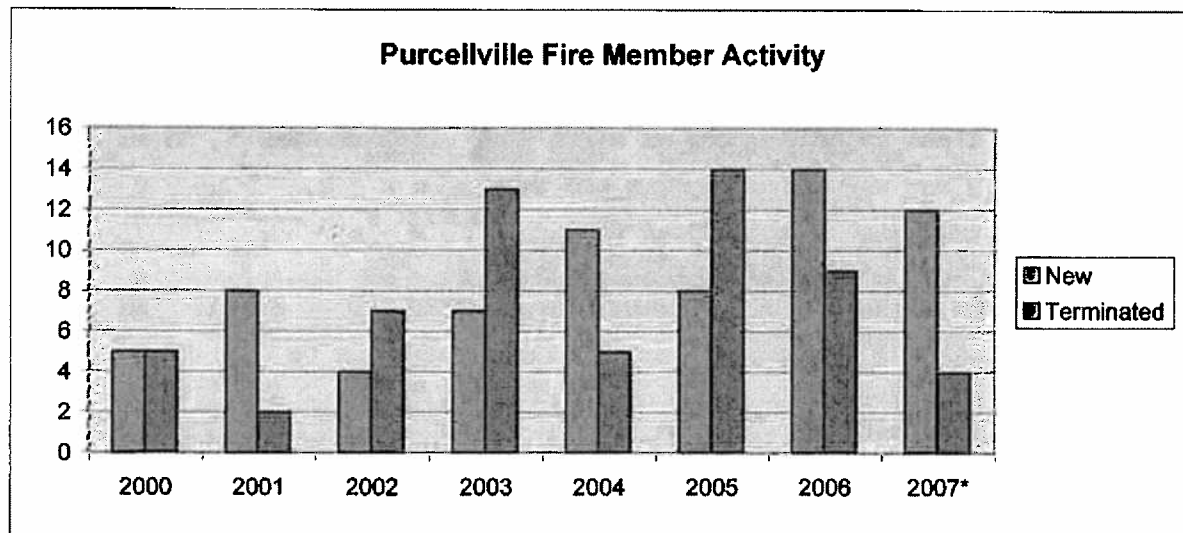
- **On September 12th, 2005 the Purcellville Volunteer Fire Co. recognized that at that time its current level of membership was unable to provide adequate and efficient service. As shown in the attachments the company was experiencing a decline in members responding to calls. The Company was unable to meet response goals to an acceptable level. The membership elected to submit a letter of request to the Fire & Rescue Commission requesting eight additional career firefighters be assigned to Station 2 to ultimately provide four career firefighters 24 hours a day. This request was passed by the commission and ultimately passed by the Board of Supervisors.**
- **In December 2005 the County of Loudoun committed itself to providing efficient and cost effective fire and rescue services utilizing both volunteer and career personnel.**
- **To support the commitment to deliver services to the community through a combined system, the County of Loudoun hired a Volunteer Coordinator Karen McQuade. Working in conjunction with the Volunteer Recruitment and Retention Committee, and our own membership group, Mrs. McQuade has been rigorously recruiting volunteers. Purcellville Fire has seen a considerable increase in applicants and ultimately valued firefighting members. The County of Loudoun has budgeted a considerable amount of money and dedicated even more valuable time to increasing the volunteer ranks of our combined system.**
- **The Purcellville Fire Co. has been aggressively recruiting members through community events and local newspaper articles. Our membership has been talking to neighbors and business associates as a means of recruiting additional members. For the past two consecutive years the fire company has increased the number of active firefighters by 38%**
- **The data provided indicates that the Purcellville Volunteer Fire Co. is steadily increasing its number of firefighters and providing the efficient service that the County of Loudoun is striving for.**

- **On June 11, 2007 the membership of the Purcellville Vol. Fire Co. elected to submit a request to the Fire and Rescue Commission to alter the staffing request made in September 2005. The need for additional coverage during the day is now more prevalent than the need for additional career staff in the evening. The data of the last two and a half years shows less of need for the County to provide career firefighters to station 2 during at night. The other notable change within the last two years is the inability to provide the adequate service during the day. The responsibilities of the volunteers during the day time hours are greater than can be provided by the company. There are 3 to 5 volunteers that are rarely always available to respond during the day to staff the second and now third out piece of apparatus. Demographics as well as work responsibilities have changed the availability of our membership.**

2000 – 2007
Membership Statistics

**Purcellville Fire
New & Terminated Members**

	New	Terminated	Net Gain/Loss
2000	5	5	0
2001	8	2	6
2002	4	7	-3
2003	7	13	-6
2004	11	5	6
2005	8	14	-6
2006	14	9	5
2007*	12	4	8

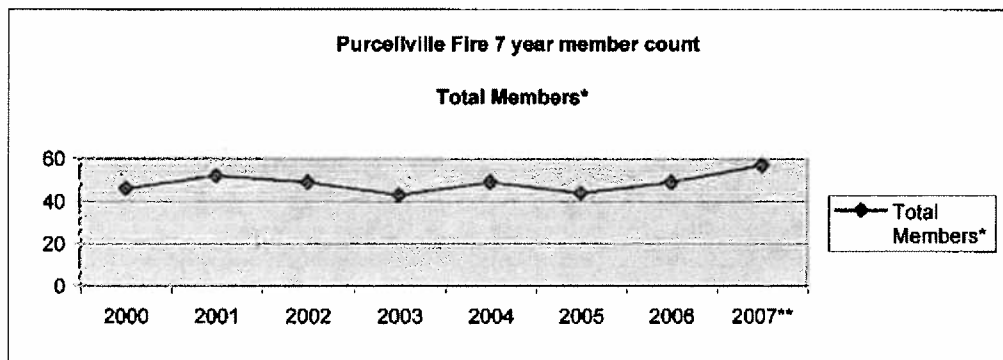


Statistics pulled from the POINTS retirement system on 6/18/07.

*2007 statistics as of 6/18/07.

Purcellville Fire 7-year Member Trend

	Active Operational Members	Active Admin Members	Unknown	Total Members*
2000	32	3	11	46
2001	37	6	9	52
2002	35	6	8	49
2003	37	2	4	43
2004	44	2	3	49
2005	41	3	0	44
2006	46	3	0	49
2007**	54	3	0	57



Statistics pulled from the POINTS retirement system as of 6/18/07.

*Member count as of December 31st of the designated year.

**2007 count as of 6/18/07

2007 Active Firefighter Duty Hours

***These hours are logged only as time spent at the
station on duty**

Active Firefighters	January	February	March	April	May
Bill Coburn	36	48	42	42	10
Buddy Colby	42	58	36	36	55
Jimmy Counselman	60	24	60	60	48
Dustin Dell	36	24	48	48	48
Chris Dowdy	13	16	12	12	6
Bob Dryden	60	60	60	60	68
Robin Dryden	36	58	48	48	24
Donnie Embrey	44	36	24	24	24
Tom Evans	45	72	36	36	48
Mark Fontaine	60	72	60	60	54
Justin Gant	12	65	58	58	58
Jim Gutierrez	58	36	72	72	12*
Josh King	36	33	48	48	60
Andrew Lev Dahl	84	72	60	60	84
Rob Lohr	48	25	48	48	34
Scott Maple	48	84	60	60	68
Mike McHugh	48	36	24	24	36
Matt Minnick	39	37	43	43	12
Tony Miske	60	32	60	60	48
Anthony Miske	35	76	72	72	82
Mike O'Brien	77	59	58	58	38
JC Poston	24	54	33	33	23
Jeff Pullen	48	17	12	12	24
Rick Reaves	36	60	60	60	56
Bud Smith	60	48	66	66	33

Total Hours	1169	1202	1200	1200	1041	5812
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Active Probationary FF's

Lisa Braun	21	60	60	60	57
Cody Counselman	0	8	42	42	34
Steven Harrington	0	52	12	12	39
Danilo Kerley	0	8	0	0	0
Phil Larsen	0	60	72	72	72
Mike McHugh Jr.	48	59	16	16	16
Jeff Piedmont	42	6	67	67	33
Brad Quin	5	24	60	24	48
Ben Saunders	30	13	12	12	0

Total Hours	146	290	341	305	299	1381
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1351	1492	1541	1505	1340
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7193 Total Hours

2005 – 2007
Single Piece Staffing Totals
1800 to 0600

Purcellville Volunteer Fire Company

Single Piece Staffing Between 1800 - 0600

Year	Total Calls	Total FF's	Average FF's Per Call	Understaffed	Failure to Respond
2005	183	880	4.8	21	8
				11%	4%
2006	176	740	4.2	17	1
				9%	.5%
2007*	61	450	7.4	0	0

* 2007 data is through June 12.

- In 2005 and 2006, 5 nights per week were covered by duty crews. Weekends were not covered by duty crews and the company relied completely on home response. 82% of the calls that were answered without adequate staffing occurred on the weekends when there was a lack of available volunteers.
- In 2007, 7 nights per week are covered by in house duty crews. This is a significant change that the company has undertaken.
- In July of 2007 our eight new volunteer recruits will graduate fire school. This will increase our average FF's per call by 23%.
- Currently we anticipate sending 7 new members to the Fall '07 Fire Training Session.

2005 – 2007
Multi Piece Staffing Totals
1800 to 0600

Purcellville Volunteer Fire Company

Multi-Piece Staffing Between 1800 - 0600

Year	Total Calls	Total FF's	Average FF's Per Call	Understaffed	Failure to Respond
2005	30	257	8.5	11	6
				36%	20%
2006	39	310	7.9	6	5
				15%	13%
2007*	18	170	9.4	1	1
				5%	5%

* 2007 data is through June 12th.

While the initial in station duty crew covers the first piece of apparatus, any additional required apparatus is staffed by members responding from home. This is due to the lack in volume of multi-piece calls, the inadequate sleeping facilities, and the number of members available for duty crews.

- In July of 2007 the eight new volunteer recruits will graduate fire school. This will increase our average FF's per call by 23%.
- These newly released firefighters will enhance the number of firefighters per duty crew. This will ultimately result in reducing the number of times the Company responds understaffed or fails to respond at all.

2005 – 2007
Multi Piece Staffing Totals
0600 - 1800

Purcellville Volunteer Fire Company

**Multi-Piece Calls during the day, 0600 - 1800,
When the required second piece of apparatus is staffed by
Volunteers**

Year	Total Calls	Total Vol. FF's	Average FF's Per Call	Understaffed	Failure to Respond
2005	39	120	3.07	4	5
				10%	13%
2006	34	96	2.8	12	3
				35%	9%
2007*	20	67	3.3	5	1
				25%	5%

* 2007 data is through June 12th.

**The number of available daytime volunteers continues to decline due to
work obligations.**